

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2180 - SB 2183

March 18, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Removes the requirement that a county agricultural extension agent must examine the livestock in question in cases of animal cruelty, before any arrest, confiscation or any other action can be taken in response to an allegation.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

MINIMAL

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-14-211, an examination of the livestock in question would still be required by either a veterinary college graduate specializing in livestock practice or a livestock specialist. If such inspection is not done within 24 hours, a licensed veterinarian could make the inspection.
- The number of farm animal cruelty incidents currently investigated by county agents is unknown; but it is expected that many animals are currently examined by either a veterinary college graduate, livestock specialist, or licensed veterinarian.
- Any impact due to a change in agent responsibility is estimated to be minimal.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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